Council motion on C-3(c) BSAI Pacific cod TAC Split April 6, 2013

Aleutian Islands Cod Allocation and Delivery Requirement

The Council requests a discussion paper to evaluate the impacts of allocating a Pacific cod directed fishing allowance (TAC minus CDQ and ICA) in Area 541/542 to the catcher vessel sector, with a regionalized delivery requirement to shoreplants in the Aleutian Island (AI) management area. The paper should include a discussion of a potential waiver to the delivery requirement in the event that there is insufficient shoreside processing capacity in the AI as well as discussion of the provisions for and experiences under the Western Aleutian Island golden king crab regional delivery requirements implemented in the BSAI crab rationalization program.

The paper should assume that the current BSAI Pacific cod sector allocations are maintained under a BS and AI TAC split and an Area 541/542 catch limit would be in proportion to abundance, based on the best available information in the annual stock assessment process.

The paper should also explore the need for and impacts of measures to avoid stranding AI TAC, such as allowing CP activity after a certain date or at higher TAC levels. Data should be provided on historical catch and processing distribution across the various sectors (gear and operational type) in Areas 541, 542, and 543, as well as a discussion of current processing capacity and activities in Adak and Atka.